Deployment of additional battalion on the Border by Myanmar

@3992. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Myanmar's borders with India which were covered by five battalions of regular infantry before 1988, are now covered by more than thirty-two battalions, as per the newsitem captioned 'Myanmar deploys 32 battalions along Indian border' which appeared in the 'Times of India', dated 17th June, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken/proposed to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Government do not have confirmed reports to suggest the deployment of 32 Myanmar infantry battalions along the Indo-Myanmar border. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments impinging on national security and takes appropriate measures, from time to time, to ensure defence preparedness.

Delay for finalising Rum contract by CSD, Bombay

3993. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rum contract for the year 1992-93 has not yet been finalised by army Canteen Stores Department, Bombay; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in finalising the contract and by when it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rum contracts for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 were finalised in October 1990 and November 1991, respectively. The process for finalisation of contracts for the year 1992-93 is in progress. The stocks of Rum are sufficient to meet Defence requirement till the supplies against new contracts start coming in.

Retirement benefit to disabled army personnel

3994. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been requested to relax eligibility conditions for retirement benefits in case of armed forces personnel disabled during service;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any action on these requests has since been taken;

(d) whether Government propose to provide similar reliefs to civilian employees of Central Government and State Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Army Jeeps purchased by Maharashtra Legislators

3995. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of jeeps purchased by Maharashtra legislators during the last 5 years from the Defence quota allotted to them; and

(b) what is the number of legislators who have benefited from this scheme?

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 3143, Transferred from 6th August, 1922.